



Agenda:

February 8, 2025

10:00 - 10:15 | Coffee and Conversation (w/ Talisman coffee) - 15:00 min

10:15 - 10:20 | Welcome (Chad Cotton) - 05:00 min

10:20 - 10:30 | Neighbors' Communications - 10:00 min

A request was issued for newsletter deliverers. There is a need for more volunteers to deliver newsletters.

Brandon Cohen, a new neighbor since 9/24, reported gunshots heard around the neighborhood. Brandon lives near Wellington and Thames. Recently around 9:04 pm while in his garage, he heard 10 shots, then a car sped off. He reported the incident, calling 911 but did not see a police response. Gunshots have occurred three times in the last three weeks.

Sam Searle reported a similar incident near her house last week. Idea was presented to have Shawna Griffin, APD commander for our precinct, come back to address WPNA.

Rick Krivoniak reported Arterra is the new name of the developer in Mueller.

10:30 - 10:35 | School's Committee (Alice Grauly) - 05:00 min

Alice presented an update on the WPNA scholarship fund. Any AISD senior living in WP or attending a WP school is eligible for the \$1000 scholarship. Over the lifetime of the scholarship, approximately 75 \$1000 scholarships have been issued. The deadline to apply for 2025 is March 31. Fliers will be at the library.

Alice updated progress on Harris Elementary construction. Harris students are currently attending Sims near 12th and Springdale. Harris is set to re-open January 2026. On April 5 there will be meetings concerning Harris, one in English and one in Spanish.

Harris Principal Ms. Sonya Wyatt introduced herself. She was formerly assistant principal at Harris and has been at Harris 12 years. Prior to Harris, she taught 14 years at Barbara Jordan. She works closely with principals at Andrews, Blanton, Pecan Springs. She can be reached at 512-414-2085. She announced there are currently 8 open slots at Harris for pre-K3 and pre-K4.

10:35 - 10:40 | Tree Adoption (Martin Luecke) - 05:00 min

Martin provided an update on the tree adoption program and shade-the-streets program. Both programs have resulted in 800 trees being planted in and around the neighborhood. Martin

obtained permission to plant trees on the watershed protection strip behind Blanton. He planted 6 oak trees, 3 are being watered, looking for 3 volunteers. The task is to do this for 2 years, 1 time per week, 15 gallons.

10:40 - 10:45 | Yard of the Month (Sara Jane Lee) - 05:00 min

Sara presented the award to Chris Crant & Colleen Berry at 1317 Westmoor Drive. They moved to WP 2 years ago. They like mediterranean style plants and xeriscaping with trees, plants, and no grass. They use drip irrigation and have rainwater collection. They received a \$50 gift card to Shoal Creek Nursery.

10:45 - 11:00 | WP Contact Team (Rodney Ahart) - 15:00 min

Rodney Ahart, former WPNA president, presented. He is currently chair of the WP contact team And a 4th generation native Austinite. In 2007 WP passed a neighborhood plan covering schools, green spaces, transportation, parks, etc. The CT is a group of residents who own property in WP and serve to be stewards of that plan. The future land use map is part of the plan. The plan provides guidelines for development. If a development plan is outside the scope, it is presented to the CT. The CT forwards recommendations to the planning commission which then forward them to the city council.

Currently there are 13 projects taking place in WP. Some include WP Towers, Highgrove, and Counter Culture across from Hanks.

Windsor Village is 40-50% leased and is still trying to lease commercial space.

East 51st at Cameron is a mixed use project that includes a grocer and office space. A demolition permit was recently received, and plans are in progress to demo all the buildings.

A question was raised concerning the area near Gus's Garage – phase 2 of Windsor Village. It was sodded by the developer because the project was delayed.

Brian asked when the CT will go back to public meetings. The answer is that satellite attendance to the Zoom meetings is available at the library as requested.

Karen Davidson, the UHNA president, asked if there are joint meetings between the WP CT and the UH CT. Rodney responded that the CT is currently working on transportation and is looking to bring in representatives from Pecan Springs, Mueller, UH. Also, UH and WP share a neighborhood plan.

The CT meets every second Monday, 2/10/25 6:30pm was the next meeting.

11:00 - 11:15 | Traffic and Development Concerns (Jeanette Swenson) - 15:00 min

Hector, Jeanette are part of the committee working on traffic and development concerns. The transportation committee works to have safer mobility for all ages. They work on getting a wide transportation network in WP.

Some current projects include the bridge over Tannehill branch creek; connection to schools like Marshall; Access to Pomerleau and Bartholomew parks; Belfast bridge and bike trail.

WP will be the first neighborhood to beta-test an area mobility plan. Nine members will serve on the committee, Mueller, University Hills, Pecan Springs neighborhoods should be represented. Robert Martinez is a retired civil engineer helping with the development process. He has been a WP neighborhood resident since 1973.

11:15 - 11:30 | Capital Delivery Services (John Fletcher) - 15:00 min

John was a teacher at LBJ for 12 years. The Capital Delivery Services department started in 2023. It handles capital improvement projects and bond projects. On a quarterly basis they go around Austin and have meetings about capital projects happening in Austin. The next meeting was 2/20/25 at the Turner Roberts Recreation Center. A partial list of the projects to be discussed:

- Airport Blvd corridor development
- Givens Recreation Center
- Johnny Morris Rd.
- Waste-water treatment expansion
- Walter Long Park improvements

The 51st street / I-35 corridor project to Berkman was a 2012 bond project. The city fired the people handling that project. This is probably one of the oldest unfinished bond projects. Uncertainty remains regarding timing and cost.

Public Works or Transportation may have projects, Capital Delivery Services manages them.

Unrelated topic of I-35 caps was brought up. UT, downtown received funding for caps. We have to get funding ASAP for our area. Chad will write an article, post it, and send it out. Chito commented we did get a \$105 million grant to get caps at Cesar Chavez and I-35.

11:30 - 11:45 | Know Your Rights (Chito Vela) - 15:00 min

Chito is a former immigration criminal defense attorney. He reported that our police chief and assistant city manager have been meeting with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). So far fear, rhetoric, and panic are above what is happening on the ground.

What we are seeing are targeted enforcement actions against individuals. The main difference is that previously immigration enforcement was low-profile. It would occur at 6am when the person was leaving their residence. Now, we are seeing arrests at Lamar and Rundberg in the middle of the day, public. Immigration enforcement is now higher profile. With respect to raw enforcement numbers, they are close to normal. There is not a huge spike in enforcement actions. The Mexican Consulate shows numbers are not significantly different from average.

Know your rights – it depends on your situation. If you have kids, have a custodial agreement ready and signed in case something happens. Chito will share a packet for [American Gateways](#), a non-profit immigration service, recommended by Chito. If you want to volunteer, [Casa Marianella](#) is a better choice. They are an immigration shelter in East Austin on Gonzalez street. They provide support services and may be in a better position to take volunteers.

The 2017 SB4 ties school districts' hands on supporting undocumented students, because we are not supposed to interfere with immigration. Ken Paxton oversees enforcement of the first SB4.

AISD has not seen a drop in attendance, but they do not have post-Trump numbers. Chito will circle back with AISD to get numbers.

A question was asked about Capital Metro, if ridership has dropped. According to Chito, the most dangerous thing you can do is drive without a license. You are less likely to have a problem on public transportation. Ninety percent of problems are related to driving.

Question about how to support – answer – supporting at local schools.

11:45 - 11:50 | Tannehill Cleanup (Ellyn Weimer) - 05:00 min

The Texas American Water Works Association has been doing the cleanup for 2 years and is committed to doing it another 2 years. The organization adopted the Tannehill branch for cleanup. A cleanup is scheduled for 12pm-3pm after the NA meeting. Meet in the WP pool parking lot. All necessities are provided – just bring yourself. Next cleanup is 4/12/25.

Meryl Foot made an announcement regarding a proposed dog park. She is on the steering committee for Mueller. The city took ownership of 3 parks around Mueller and offered to build a dog park there. However, the property owner's association has to agree. This would be the first city dog park in East Austin. It would be 10k sq ft, with a small dog area and large dog area. There is a community supported dog park – Pickle's Place - behind Hope Lutheran.

Meryl asked the NA to consider sending a letter of support to the city.

11:50 - 11:55 | Treasurers Report (Sam Searle) - 05:00 min

- Funds for all except two scholarships are distributed for 2024.
- There was a \$15,000 donation for trees in the neighborhood.
- Two newsletter sponsors re-upped for the whole year, so we received a lot of funds.
- Membership drive ended 2/28/25.
- Some potential sponsors mentioned include Mum foods, Austin Creative Reuse, Quality Seafood, Homeslice.
- We have surpassed renewals from where we were last year.

11:55 - 12:00 | Nov Minutes (Keith Edwards) - 05:00 min

Minutes were approved.